

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) An image processing method comprising the steps of:
detecting a color solid axis of an original image;
judging an exposure state of the original image from a positional
relationship between said color solid axis and an axis indicating the luminosity in a color
space representing the color solid; and
setting an image correcting condition according to a result of said judgment.

7. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 6, wherein
said image correcting condition is a condition for adjusting the contrast of a component
indicating the luminosity of said original image.

8. (Original) An image processing method for effecting an image correction
process on an original image according to the color distribution of the original image
comprising steps of:
detecting a color solid axis of the original image in a predetermined color
space; and
controlling said image correction process based on a positional relationship
of said color solid axis in said color space.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) An image processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting a color solid axis of an original image;

judgment means for judging an exposure state of said original image from a positional relationship between said color solid axis and an axis indicating the luminosity in a color space representing said color solid; and

setting means for setting an image correcting condition corresponding to a result of said judgment.

11. (Original) An image processing apparatus for executing an image

correction process on an original image, corresponding to the color distribution thereof, comprising:

detection means for detecting the color solid axis of the original image in a predetermined color space; and

control means for controlling said image correction process based on a positional relationship of said color solid axis in said color space.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) A computer readable memory medium storing a computer program for realizing:

detecting means for detecting a color solid axis of an original image;

judgment means for judging an exposure state of said original image from the positional relationship between said color solid axis and an axis indicating the luminosity in a color space representing said color solid; and

setting means for setting an image correcting condition according to a result of said judgment.

14. (Original) A computer readable memory medium in which a computer program is stored, for realizing:

detection means for detecting the color solid axis of an original image in a predetermined color space; and

control means for controlling said image correction process based on a positional relationship of said color solid axis in said color space,

wherein said program causes an image correction process to be executed on the original image corresponding to the color distribution of the original image.

15. (New) An image processing method comprising the steps of:

detecting a luminosity of a highlight point and a shadow point of an original image;

obtaining a hue of the highlight point and the shadow point from plural pixels of the luminosity; and

executing a correction process on the original image based on the highlight point, the shadow point and the hue,

wherein the correction process executed in said executing step executes a color fog correction by matching a color solid axis of the original image with an axis indicating the luminosity.

16. (New) An image processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting a luminosity of a highlight point and a shadow point of an original image;

obtaining means for obtaining a hue of the highlight point and the shadow point from plural pixels of the luminosity; and

correction means for executing a correction process on the original image based on the highlight point, the shadow point and the hue,

wherein said correction means executes a color fog correction by matching a color solid axis of the original image with an axis indicating the luminosity.

17. (New) A computer readable memory medium in which a program of an image processing method is stored, said program comprising the codes for:

detecting a luminosity of a highlight point and a shadow point of an original image;

obtaining a hue of the highlight point and the shadow point from plural pixels of the luminosity; and

executing a correction process on the original image based on the highlight point, the shadow point and the hue,

wherein the correction process executes a color fog correction by matching a color solid axis of the original image with an axis indicating the luminosity.